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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/617,234	07/14/2000	Takehiro Yoshida	35.G2619	5377

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EXAMINER

PARK, CHAN S

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/617,234	Applicant(s) YOSHIDA, TAKEHIRO	
	Examiner CHAN S. PARK	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 November 2005.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. Applicant's amendment was received on 11/14/05, and has been entered and made of record. Currently, **claims 1-10** are pending.

Specification

2. The corrected or substitute specification was received on 11/14/05. The specification is acceptable.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement filed 9/22/00 fails to comply with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(1), which requires the following: (1) a list of all patents, publications, applications, or other information submitted for consideration by the Office; (2) U.S. patents and U.S. patent application publications listed in a section separately from citations of other documents; (3) the application number of the application in which the information disclosure statement is being submitted on each page of the list; (4) a column that provides a blank space next to each document to be considered, for the examiner's initials; and (5) a heading that clearly indicates that the list is an information disclosure statement. The information disclosure statement has been placed in the application file, but the information referred to therein has not been considered.

It is noted that no copy of Form PTO-1449 is enclosed in the application.

Response to Arguments

4. Applicant's arguments filed 11/14/05 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument regarding the rejection of claim 1, wherein on page 14, the applicant explains how the current invention differs from the teaching of Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,170,428 (hereinafter Watanabe). Particularly, the applicant states that Watanabe does not teach or suggest "a start selector, arranged to select a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission," or "a ring-type multiple-address reception transfer selector, arranged to select a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception" as recited in claim 1. Examiner respectfully disagrees. Watanabe clearly discloses the start selector, arranged to select a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission (using the fax apparatus of fig. 2 as the transmitter (Fax 2) in col. 3, lines 5-14), and a ring-type multiple address reception transfer selector, arranged to select a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception (using the fax apparatus of fig. 2 as the repeater station (Fax 1) in col. 5, lines 3-16).

In other words, when the facsimile apparatus of fig. 2 or fig. 6 is used as a transmitting facsimile apparatus (fax 2), a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission instruction is inputted via the operation unit 7 (col. 3, lines 7-14) and when the facsimile apparatus of fig. 2 or fig. 6 is used as a repeater station, CPU 6, in conjunction with detection circuits 12 and 13, selects/determines to perform a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception based on the received instruction from the transmitting facsimile apparatus (col. 3, lines 27-45). The applicant seems to claim that

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the transfer selector and the start selector are incorporated in the operation unit.

However, it is noted that this difference is not apparent in the current claim wording.

Even if the transfer selector is assumed to be a part of the operation unit, Watanabe clearly teaches that the transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception can be selected by selecting means (col. 5, lines 3-16).

Further, when the fax apparatus of fig. 2 is used as the repeater station (fax 1), that is equivalent to the applicant's selection of the transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception, the address of the transmitter (fax 2) is not added by the controller of fax 1. Please refer to the ***Response to the Argument*** presented in the Office Action dated 9/20/05.

Further, it is noted that the image data is received either by the read unit 8 or the transmission/reception unit 11 in fig. 2.

Further, Watanabe teaches an identification unit, arranged to identify whether or not the received image data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing (col. 3, lines 36-45).

Further, Kawasaki (U.S. Patent No. 5,170,428), the same field of endeavor of the facsimile system, discloses the method of adding the transmitter facsimile information as the image data (Abstract and col. 2, lines 39-42).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the method of adding the transmitter information as the image data of Kawasaki into the facsimile system of Watanabe.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to receive the transmitter information along with the received image data.

Therefore, rejections of the claims, as currently amended, are maintained and repeated in this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Watanabe et al. U.S. Patent No. 5,170,428 (hereinafter Watanabe) in view of Kawasaki U.S. Patent No. 6,310,699.

5. With respect to claim 1, Watanabe discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile of fig. 2) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission (relay operation, as defined in the specification of the instant application), said apparatus comprising:

a registration unit (fig. 2, #9, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4) arrange to register a sub-address signal and a communication specification so as to correspond to a memory box;

a start selector, (fig. 2, #7, column 3, lines 5-26) arranged to select a start of a ring-type multiple-address transmission;

a ring-type multiple address reception transfer selector, (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-45) arranged to select a transfer of a ring-type multiple-address reception; and

a controller, (fig. 2, #6, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4) arranged to perform a control operation so that, when the start of the ring-type multiple address transmission has been selected, transmitter information is added, and when the transfer of ring-type multiple-address reception has been selected, the transmitter information is not added (refer to the arguments represented dated 9/20/05);

wherein the communication apparatus performs the ring-type multiple address transmission/reception of received image data (relay operation, as defined in the specification of the instant application).

Watanabe, however, does not disclose expressly that the transmitter information is added to the received image data as the image data.

Kawasaki, the same field of endeavor of the facsimile system, discloses the method of adding the transmitter facsimile information as the image data (Abstract and col. 2, lines 39-42).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the method of adding the transmitter information as the image data of Kawasaki into the facsimile system of Watanabe.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to receive the transmitter information along with the image data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kawasaki with Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

6. With respect to claim 2, Watanabe discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when a start of ring-type multiple-address transmission has been selected, information indicating ring-type multiple-address transmission and information indicating a nickname of information to be transmitted are added as transmitter information. Watanabe discloses in column 3, lines 5-26, that the transmitter or originating unit information is added to the transmitted document. Therefore, it would be inherent that the information that is preprogrammed within the originating unit as to the unit's information, be added to a transmitted document, and that if a nickname is used to describe the unit then a nickname would be added to the transmitted information. Also, refer to col. 2, lines 39-42 of Kawasaki.

7. With respect to claim 3, Watanabe discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when the sub-address signal and a transfer to a predetermined address, (column 3, lines 5-26) serving as communication specification, are registered in said registration unit so as to correspond to the memory box, if the registered sub-address signal is received, the transmitter information is added, and the received information is transferred to the predetermined address. The claim is interpreted to mean, that if a plurality of addresses is to receive a transmitted document then the transmitted information of the originating unit's information is added

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to the document. Watanabe discloses that the information of originating unit is added not the information of any relay units. Also, refer to col. 2, lines 39-42 of Kawasaki.

8. With respect to claim 5, Watanabe discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, wherein said controller performs a control operation so that, when the sub-address signal and a transfer to a predetermined address, (column 3, lines 5-26) serving as communication specification, are registered in said registration unit so as to correspond to the memory box, if the registered sub-address signal is received, the transmitter information is added, and the received information is transferred to the predetermined address. The claim is interpreted to mean, that if a plurality of addresses are to receive a transmitted document then the transmitted information of the originating unit's information is added to the document. Watanabe discloses that the information of originating unit is added not the information of any relay units. Also, refer to col. 2, lines 39-42 of Kawasaki.

9. With respect to claim 4, Watanabe et al. discloses a communication apparatus (facsimile) adapted to perform ring-type multiple-address transmission, said apparatus comprising:

a memory, (fig. 2, #10, column 3, lines 58-59) arranged to store received data;

a transfer unit (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-68) arranged to transfer the received data stored in said memory;

an identification unit (fig. 2, #12 & #13, column 3, lines 27-68), arranged to identify whether or not the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing; and

a processor (fig. 2, #6, column 2, lines 48-68, column 3, lines 1-4), arranged to cause said transfer unit to transfer the received data without adding transmitter information if the received data is data assigned to be subjected to ring-type multiple-address processing, and to cause the transfer unit to transfer the received data with the transmitter information added thereto if the received data is not data assigned to be subjected to the ring-type multiple-address processing (column 4, lines 45-55, and column 5, lines 40-45). Refer to the arguments represented above.

Watanabe, however, does not disclose expressly that the transmitter information is added as to the received image data as image data.

Kawasaki, the same field of endeavor of the facsimile system, discloses the method of adding the transmitter facsimile information as the image data (Abstract and col. 2, lines 39-42).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the method of adding the transmitter information as the image data of Kawasaki into the facsimile system of Watanabe.

The suggestion/motivation for doing so would have been to receive the transmitter information along with the image data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Kawasaki with Watanabe to obtain the invention as specified in claim 4.

10. With respect to claim 6, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 1, are applicable.

11. With respect to claim 7, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 2, are applicable.
12. With respect to claim 8, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 3, are applicable.
13. With respect to claim 9, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 4, are applicable.
14. With respect to claim 10, arguments analogous to those presented for claim 5, are applicable.

Conclusion

15. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO MONTHS** of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the **THREE-MONTH** shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than **SIX MONTHS** from the mailing date of this final action.

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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CHAN S. PARK whose telephone number is (571) 272-7409. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

csp
January 17, 2006

Chan S. Park
Examiner
Art Unit 2622


EDWARD COLES
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER